DELUXE	AUTOMATIC	5-STRING	6-STRING

SAARANG

ELECTRONIC TAMBURA

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

This manual contains information and instructions relating to all the models of the "Saarang". Please refer to the paragraphs relevant to the model possessed by you.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The "Saarang" electronic Tambura (Tanpura) is a sophisticated musical instrument for providing sruthi accompaniment to performers of music. It is fully solid state and incorporates both digital and linear ICs besides discrete transistors and other semiconductors.

The "Saarang" can be tuned to any desired pitch over more than one octave thus enabling it to be used by ladies as well as gents (vocalists). It is also suitable for instrumentalists. The "Saarang" is available in four models, viz., Deluxe, Automatic, 5-string and 6-string.

The **Deluxe** model corresponds to the most commonly used four stringed tambura used by performers of Indian Music. Accordingly, it has eight tuning knobs (four coarse tuning and four fine tuning) corresponding to the four strings of the conventional tambura. Since these four notes are normally tuned to the Panchamam (Pancham), Saarani, Anusaarani (Aadhara Shadjam or Shadj), and Mandara Shadjam (Kharaj), the corresponding knobs are marked as PA, SA, SA and SA respectively. The Saarani knob is provided with a calibrated dial to enable the sruthi (pitch) to be set without the aid of a separate pitch pipe.

The **5-string** model is identical to the Deluxe model in appearance. However, it produces the sound of a 5-stringed tambura by repeating the Anusaarani note (second Shadj) in each cycle. The Saarani note can therefore be set to a different note, if required. (eg. Pa-Ni-Sa-Sa-Sa or Ma-Dha-Sa-Sa-Sa).

The **6-string** model produces the sound of a 6-stringed tambura sometimes used for Hindustani (North Indian) music. It has six separately tunable knobs to produce six notes of any choice to suit the particular raaga (raag) being rendered.

The **Automatic** model produces the sound of a 4-stringed tambura as the deluxe model. However, the tuning of all the four notes is accomplished by a single knob. This synchronisation of the four notes is achieved electronically and cannot be altered individually. Consequently, the four notes can only correspond to the Panchamam, Shadjam (Saarani & Anusaarani) and Mandara Shadjam. The Panchamam can be altered to Madhyamam by a changeover switch.

All the models are provided with Tempo and Tone controls. The Tempo control enables the pluck rate to be adjusted within normally desired limits. An ON/OFF-cum-volume control is provided on all the models. For ease of tuning, switches are provided on all the models, except the Automatic model, to switch off all the notes except the Saarani.

All the instruments operate on six 1.5 volt batteries (size "C") as well as AC Mains 230 volts or 110 volts. A mains voltage selector switch is provided at the rear of the instrument. Weak batteries are indicated by the missing of some notes or plucking in disorder. A selector switch is provided at the rear of the instrument to select operation on AC Mains (AC) or Batteries (BAT).

A speaker socket is provided at the side of the instrument for connecting an additional external speaker (8 ohms). Connection of an external speaker does not disconnect the internal speaker. This socket can also be used for connection to an external amplifier system for louder sound, if desired.

OPERA

Note: The fine tuning knob for the SA (with the calibrated dial) has been deleted on the Deluxe, Dx-Soft & 5-string models as this knob was rarely used and was causing considerable confusion while setting the pitch on the dial.

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Canada). The figure visible is the voltage to which it is set.

1.2 Set the AC/BAT selector switch as desired.

1.3 Switch the instrument ON by turning the knob marked VOL clockwise. Turn the volume control knob by about quarter turn to hear the notes.

2.1 **Deluxe Model**: Push the slide switches marked PA and SA rearwards to switch off the Panchamam and Mandara Shadjam. Turn the Anusaarani knob (second SA) fully anticlockwise to switch off that note. Set the Fine tuning knob of the Saarani at the fully clockwise position for the calibrated dial to be valid. Keep other fine tuning knobs at their mid-positions before adjusting the coarse tuning knobs so that fine tuning could be achieved in both directions.

Now set the Saarani knob to the desired pitch setting on the calibrated dial. Switch ON the Anusaarani note and

tune it to the same pitch as the Saarani note. Switch ON the Panchamam and the Mandara Shadjam one by one and tune to the desired pitch. (The Panchamam is normally tuned to be lower than the Saarani and the Mandara Shadjam is tuned one octave lower than the Saarani). Finally, adjust the Tempo and Tone controls as desired.

2.2 **Automatic Model** : Set the slide switch marked PA to give either Panchamam or Madhyamam as desired. Then set the calibrated tuning knob to the desired pitch. Adjust the Tempo and Tone controls as desired.

2.3 **5-String Model** : Operate as indicated for the Deluxe model. Finally, set the Saarani knob to any other desired note (eg., nishad or dhaivat).

2.4 **6-String Model** : Keep all the switches on the front face of the instrument in the upward (OFF) position and switch ON only the switch corresponding to the note SA with the dial. Set the pitch as desired. Switch ON the other notes one by one and tune to the desired notes. This instrument is so designed that a range of variation of about one octave is provided for the six notes in the following sequence – Pa-Pa-Ni-Sa-Sa-Sa. Any note available within the range can however be set as desired. Finally, adjust the Tempo and Tone controls as desired.

Warranty : The "Saarang" electronic tambura is guaranteed against manufacturing defects for a period of one year from the date of sale. The warranty is valid only if the seal at the rear of the instrument is intact. In case of any problems, contact your dealer or RAJ MUSICALS, 147, 12th Cross, J. P. Nagar II Phase, Bangalore 560 078. Tel.: 642138

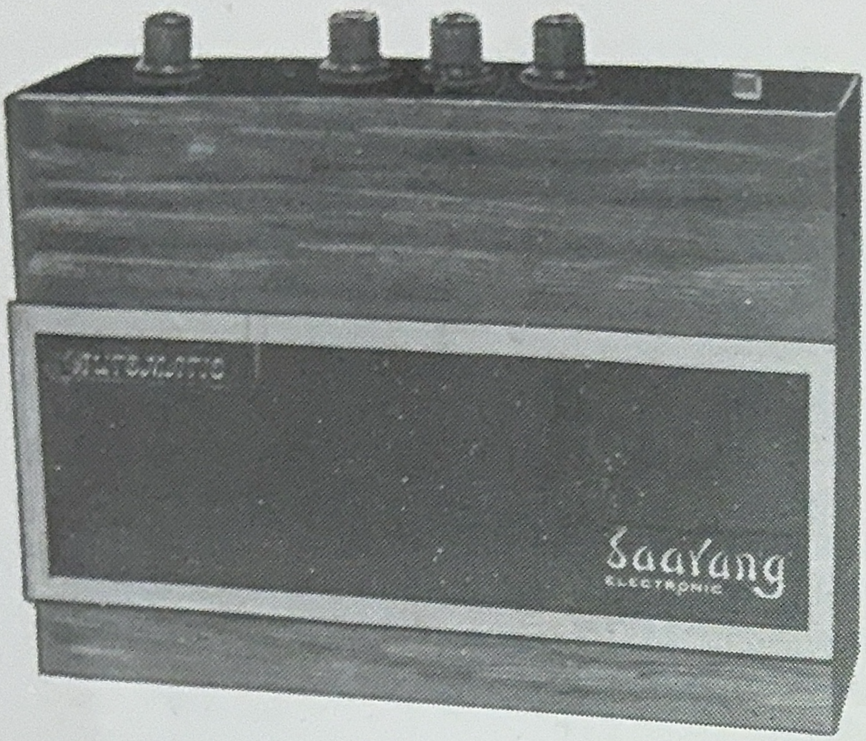
Caution : Failure of components, especially semiconductors such as ICs are extremely remote. The "Saarang" is therefore a very reliable and rugged instrument. It is therefore advisable to contact the manufacturers or dealers in case of any problems. Servicing attempted by untrained technicians may cause permanent damage to delicate components. No periodic servicing or maintenance is required for the instrument. However, it is advisable to **check the condition of the batteries once in two or three weeks** to prevent any leakage and consequent damage to internal parts.

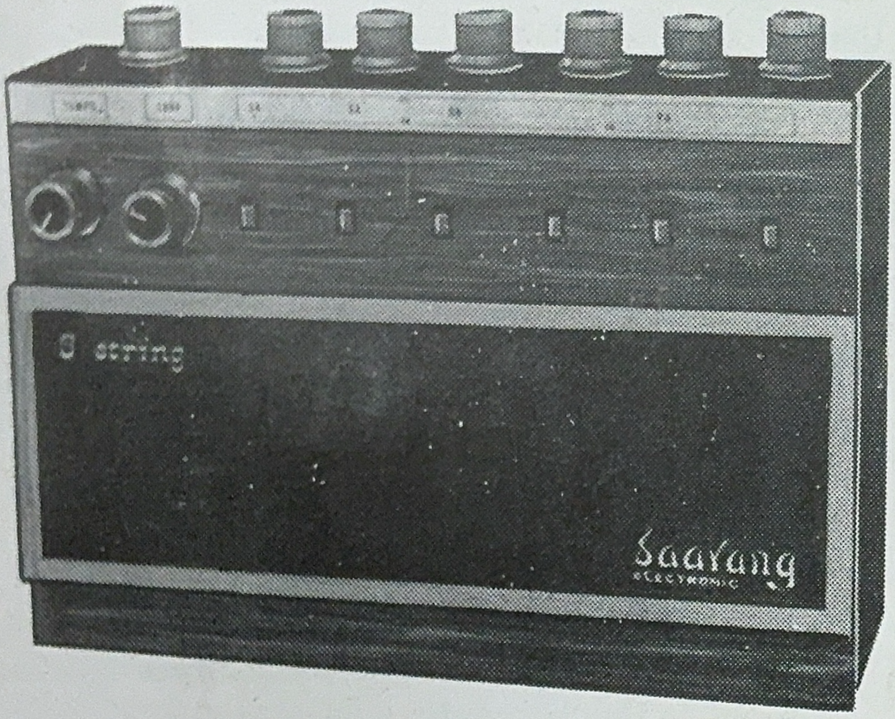
The instrument can also be operated, transported or stored in any position without affecting its performance.

WARNING :

1. Set the AC Mains voltage selector switch at the rear of the instrument correctly before use. The voltage to which it is set will be visible through the window of the switch.

2. Check condition of batteries and replace/remove them before they leak. Otherwise, the contacts and other parts within the instrument would get corroded and fail.





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